

REMARKS

The present application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 18, 2003. Claims 1, 4, 5, 8-12, 15, 16, 19-23, 26, 27, and 30-33 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 5, 12, 16, 23, and 27 are in independent form. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 13, 14, 17, 18, 24, 25, 28, and 29 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein, and Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19-23, 26, 27, and 30-33 have been amended as to formal matters and/or to define Applicant's invention more clearly. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that Claims 9, 10, 20, 21, 31, and 32 include allowable subject matter would be allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully decline to so rewrite these claims at the present time.

The Office Action asserts that no certified copies of the Japanese priority documents for the present application have been received. Applicant submits, however, that certified copies of the priority documents were received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 3, 2000, as evidenced by the attached copy of the stamped and dated returned receipt postcard. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that certified copies of the priority documents have been submitted for this application, and requests that a search be made.

The Office Action states that Claims 1-4 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,896,470 (Miyaza); that Claims 23-26 are rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyaza; and that Claims 5-8, 11, 16-19,

22, 27-30, and 33 are rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyaza in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,136,399 (Aoyama). Cancellation of Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 13, 14, 17, 18, 24, 25, 28, and 29 renders their rejections moot. Applicant submits that independent Claims 1, 5, 12, 16, 23, and 27, together with the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

An aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus that includes area size determining means, information memory means, object size determining means, size changing means, and control means. The area size determining means determines a size of a document output area when document data is outputted to an output apparatus based on layout information. The information memory means stores a plurality of size information having a relation between a size of a document output area and a size of each of plural kinds of objects included in the document data. The object size determining means determines a size of each of the plural kinds of objects based on the size determined by the area size determining means and the size information stored in the information memory means. The size changing means changes the size of each of the plural kinds of objects based on each size determined by the object size determining means, respectively. The control means outputs each of the plural kinds of objects whose size has been changed by the size changing means to the output apparatus.

One of the notable features of Claim 1 is that the information processing apparatus determines a size of a document output area, changes a size of each of plural kinds of objects based on a respective determined size, and outputs each of the plural kinds of objects

whose size has been changed to an output apparatus.

Miyaza relates to an image processing system that provides an "improved readability of characters." As understood by Applicant, Miyaza discloses that a character size is not reduced in a case in which a character does not have a readable size if the size of the character is reduced. That is, Miyaza teaches that a size judgment is made on a character readability basis.

Nothing has been found in Miyaza that is believed to teach or suggest an information processing apparatus that includes "area size determining means for determining a size of a document output area when document data is outputted to an output apparatus based on layout information," and "object size determining means for determining a size of each of the plural kinds of objects based on the size determined by said area size determining means and the size information stored in said information memory means," and "size changing means for changing the size of each of the plural kinds of objects based on each size determined by said object size determining means, respectively," and "control means for outputting each of the plural kinds of objects whose size has been changed by said size changing means to the output apparatus," as recited in Claim 1.

Unlike the Miyaza system, the information processing apparatus of Claim 1 makes a size determination of each of plural kinds of objects based on a size of a document output area, changes the size of each of the plural kinds of objects based on their respective determined sizes, and outputs each of the plural kinds of objects whose size has been changed. Miyaza is not seen to show or suggest such features.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is not anticipated by Miyaza and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Independent Claims 12 and 23 include features similar to those discussed above, and therefore also are believed to be patentable for at least the above reasons.

An aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 5 is directed to an information processing apparatus that includes layout information memory means, display control means, and associating means. The layout information memory means stores layout information when document data is outputted to an output apparatus. The display control means displays two or more kinds of objects included in the document data on a display screen. The associating means associates each displayed object with size information having a relation between a size of a document output area and a size of a displayed object when the document data is outputted to the output apparatus based on the layout information.

Aoyama relates to an image recording system with editing functions. As understood by Applicant, Aoyama discloses that a designated area is colored in an original image that has been read. Although Aoyama discusses setting a magnification, the magnification that is set is described in the context of a copy and not in the context of resizing an object included in document data, as claimed in Claim 5.

Applicants submit that a combination of Miyaza and Aoyama, assuming such combination would even be permissible, would fail to teach or suggest an information processing apparatus that includes "layout information memory means for storing layout information when document data is outputted to an output apparatus," and "display control means for displaying

two or more kinds of objects included in the document data on a display screen," and "associating means for associating each displayed object with size information having a relation between a size of a document output area and a size of a displayed object when the document data is outputted to the output apparatus based on the layout information," as recited in Claim 5.

Applicant submits that none of the cited references teaches or suggests the claimed memory, control, and association features of Claim 5. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 5 is patentable over the cited art, and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Independent Claims 16 and 27 include similar memory, control, and association features as those of Claim 5, and therefore also are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above, and therefore are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

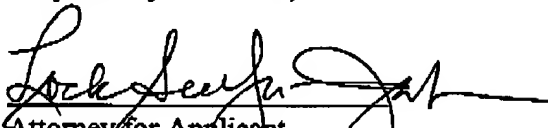
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for the present Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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